



English language skills helped Ildiko progress from cleaner to finance manager

## Learner profile: Ildiko Sagi

Ildiko has studied employability and also English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

“

When I arrived in the UK four years ago, I did not speak any English. Although my background was in finance, I was not able to continue on that career path in the UK without the skills to communicate with colleagues. My first job in England was a cleaner, which was only possible because I worked with Hungarian colleagues and they helped. I was able to get by but I felt frustrated.

I had to sit down and make a plan to get my life back on track. The first, vital step was to learn English. I was happy to find this centre because it showed me how I could continue my journey. First I focused on my English which led

me to take a number of ESOL classes. I felt like I was the worst student in the class, but I applied myself and with the support of my tutor and students I became confident enough to begin practising on my own.

I took an employability course whilst I was completing ESOL. By the end of the course I was brave enough to stop my cleaning jobs and re-enter finance.

I found a vacancy and sent them my CV and covering letter. The interview and English skills I had learnt helped me turn a 30 minute interview into two hour conversation. I was able to secure the role and am now a financial manager.

To see more learner stories visit [www.hfals.co.uk](http://www.hfals.co.uk)